



The Herenberg, Rosendal, Free State

This stylish house has effortless contemporary flair, where sleek minimalist lines meet rich, warm wood, and large windows frame picturesque landscapes. With tasteful selections of Persian rugs and Nguni hides, family heirlooms and avantgarde artworks, the décor ensures the interiors are as beautiful as the scenery. The open-plan spaces stretch out onto an elevated patio facing the vast horizon, where your four-legged friend can frolic freely. Surrounded by undulating hilltops painted in hues of lush green, the tranquil landscape offers a chance to live out your country-life fantasies. Each sunrise and sunset is an opportunity to reset, and what better way than with a loyal companion at your side as you listen to the silence and breathe in the fresh air. mperfecthideaways.co.za





Pezula Castle, Knysna, Garden Route

This grand seaside villa is set on Knysna's secret beach at Noetzie and, yes, it does look like a castle a place where the whole family can seek adventure in an opulent setting. The generous interiors make it comfortable for furry friends of any size, where a good balance of play and relaxation is encouraged. Along with nature on your doorstep, the scenery, soft sand and crashing waves invite a sense of wonder. Who would have thought a castle would be the perfect pet-friendly escape? It's a flawless contrast between luxury and freespirited living that will inspire you beyond your imagination.

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Thuúla Haven, Hemel-en-Aarde, *Western Cape*

Thuúla ('silence' in isiXhosa) perfectly preludes the serenity of this farm stay, where those who are travelling with pet companions can retreat into a landscape of towering mountains, fynbos-covered hills and sparkling farm dams. The breathtaking barnstyle house is immersed in nature, with warm, minimalist interiors that bask in the natural light. Every detail of this sanctuary blends seamlessly into the background of this wine valley near Hermanus, where you can venture out on a hike with your dogs or a walk along the farm's many trails, or spend the day beside the dam.

thuula.com



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Eco Karoo Mountain Lodge, Luckhoff, *Free State*

For those who wish to relish in a sense of untouched land, the northern plains of the Karoo are rich with wonders from indigenous desert flora to ancient fossil beds. This solar-powered lodge cherishes its natural environment, ensuring a sustainable yet comfortable stay at the foot of the Joostenberg mountains. The indoor-outdoor design of the lodge is crafted to highlight the organic, untouched essence of the Karoo, with lots of wood and earth tones that foster a tranquil space to escape into. With the entire 4 200-hectare farm as a playground, this is a place that allows you and your pet to truly reconnect with nature.

ecokaroo.com

LIFE GUIDE *local travel*

The Blogck House at Cypiro, Thabazimbi, Limpopo

Nestled in the heart of the breathtaking bushveld on a private 70-hectare swathe of land, this getaway is the epitome of a sophisticated safari experience. Its stunning glass-and-steel architecture blends seamlessly with the arty, refined décor which gives a nod to the surrounding African wilderness. The house has a safe, fenced-off garden for dogs to roam, making it one of the few safari destinations that welcomes pets. For their owners, there's a pool, outdoor shower and hot tub to enjoy. Beyond that is an entire world of adventure, with scenic walks, picnics and birdwatching, plus game drives in the neighbouring Marakele and Marataba National Parks.

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* Note that at most of are allowed by prior arrangement only, so check before booking.

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